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HUMAN LANGUAGE TEXT

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METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
TRANSLATION MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN LANGUAGE TEXT

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field Of The Invention

10 The present invention generally relates to the transfer of source language files of human language text in a source language from software developers to translators or translation programs. The present invention specifically relates to a management of such a transfer that facilitates an effective operation of a source code control system.

15 2. Description Of The Related Art

Software developers utilize a source code control system for organizing, tracking, and maintaining each source code configuration of a developing program. An example of a source code control system is a server computer programmed with a Configuration Management and Version Control program by International Business Machine Corporation (IBM), a SOURCESAFE® program
20 by Microsoft, or a PVCS® program by Intersolv, Inc. While a source code control system can perform a comprehensive management of each source code configuration, the system fails to perform a comprehensive management of each language translation of human language text within a source code configuration.

Specifically, when reaching a translation stage of the developing program, the source language files of the human language text in the source language are typically extracted from the source code control system, and then bundled and shipped to translators. Upon a translation of the human language text, target language files of the human language text in the target language are received from the translators. Prior to being incorporated within the source code control system, the received target language files are manually reviewed for a complete translation of the human language text, and a compatibility with the corresponding source language files. However, there are several disadvantages to such a manual review of the received target language files.

First, a manual review is prone to organizational mistakes such as an incorporation of duplicate target language files within a source code control system, or a failure to incorporate one or more target language files within a source code control system. Second, a manual review is prone to textual mistakes such as an incorporation within a source code control system of a target language file having an incorrect format, an incorrect code set, a missing portion of the code set, and/or spurious characters. Third, a manual review may require an inordinate amount of time.

Thus, prior to the present invention, a comprehensive and consistent management of human language text translations was not attainable.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a method and system for translation management of human language text that overcomes the disadvantages associated with the prior art. Various aspects of the invention are novel, 5 non-obvious, and provide various advantages. While the actual nature of the present invention covered herein can only be determined with reference to the claims appended hereto, certain features, which are characteristic of the embodiments disclosed herein, are described briefly as follows.

One form of the present invention is a method for managing a translation 10 of a human language text from a source language to a target language. First, a control file is generated. The control file includes one or more source language files of the human language text in the source language and a source manifest listing the source language file(s). Second, a translation file corresponding to the control file is received. The translation file includes one or more target language 15 files of the human language text in the target language and a target manifest listing the target language file(s). Third, the source manifest and the target manifest are compared. The translation file is accepted when a comparison of the source manifest and the target manifest collectively indicate a complete translation of the human language text from the source language to the target 20 language. The translation file is accepted when a comparison of the source manifest and the target manifest collectively indicate an incomplete translation of the human language text from the source language to the target language.

A second form of the present invention is an information handling system for managing a translation of a human language text from a source language to a target language. The system comprises several means. A means for generating a control file including one or more source language files of the human language text in the source language and a source manifest listing the source language file(s). A means for receiving a translation file corresponding to the control file. The translation file includes one or more target language files of the human language text in the target language and a target manifest listing the target language file(s). And, a means for comparing the source manifest and the target manifest. The translation file is accepted when a comparison of the source manifest and the target manifest collectively indicate a complete translation of the human language text from the source language to the target language. The translation file is accepted when a comparison of the source manifest and the target manifest collectively indicate an incomplete translation of the human language text from the source language to the target language.

A third form of the present invention is computer program product in a computer readable medium. The computer program product is for managing a translation of a human language text from a source language to a target language. The computer program product comprises several computer readable codes. A computer readable code for generating a control file including one or more source language files of the human language text in the source language and a source manifest listing the source language file(s). A computer readable code for receiving a translation file corresponding to the control file. The translation file is accepted when a comparison of the source manifest and the target manifest collectively indicate a complete translation of the human language text from the source language to the target language. The translation file is accepted when a comparison of the source manifest and the target

manifest collectively indicate an incomplete translation of the human language text from the source language to the target language.

The foregoing forms and other forms, features and advantages of the present invention will become further apparent from the following detailed description of the presently preferred embodiments, read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings. The detailed description and drawings are merely illustrative of the invention rather than limiting, the scope of the invention being defined by the appended claims and equivalents thereof.

10 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a schematic diagram of one embodiment in accordance with the present invention of a distributed computing system;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram of one embodiment in accordance with the present invention of computer hardware employed in the **FIG. 1** system;

15 **FIG. 3** is a block diagram of one embodiment in accordance with the present invention of computer software employed in the **FIG. 1** system;

FIG. 4 is a flow chart of one embodiment in accordance with the present invention of translation management routine implemented by the **FIG. 3** computer software;

20 **FIG. 5** is an exemplary translation file check-in web page of a translation management server computer of the **FIG. 1** system;

FIG. 6 is an exemplary translation file acceptance web page of the translation management server computer of the **FIG. 1** system; and

25 **FIG. 7** is an exemplary translation file validation web page of the translation management server computer of the **FIG. 1** system.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENTLY PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring to **FIG. 1**, a distributed computer system **10** is shown. System

5 **10** comprises a network **11** such as, for example, an intranet, an Internet, a wide area network, or a local area network. System **10** further comprises a source code control server computer **12**, a source code database **13**, a translation management server computer **14**, a German translation client computer **15a**, a French translation client computer **15b**, a Spanish translation client computer

10 **15c**, an Italian translation client computer **15d**, a Russian translation client computer **15e**, a Japanese translation client computer **15f**, a Chinese translation client computer **15g**, a Korean translation client computer **15h**, and an Arabic translation client computer **15i**. Network **11** provides communication links between server computer **12**, server computer **14**, and client computers **15a-15i**.

15 Accordingly, network **11** may include permanent connections, such as wire or fiber optic cables, or temporary connections, such as telephone or wireless communications, to server computer **12**, server computer **14**, and/or client computers **15a-15i**. Other embodiments of system **10** may include additional networks **11**, server computers **12**, databases **13**, and server computers **14**.

20 Other embodiments of system **10** may also include more or less client computers **15a-15i**, and/or other types of translation client computers **15**.

Server computer **12**, server computer **14**, and client computers **15a-15i** may be configured in any form for accepting structured inputs, processing the inputs in accordance with prescribed rules, and outputting the processing results

25 as would occur to those having ordinary skill in the art, such as, for example, a personal computer, a workstation, a super computer, a mainframe computer, a minicomputer, a super minicomputer, and a microcomputer. Referring to **FIG. 2**, one hardware embodiment of server computer **12** and server computer **14** as computer **20** is shown.

Computer **20** includes a bus **21** for facilitating electrical communication among a central processing unit (CPU) **22**, a read-only memory (ROM) **23**, a random access memory (RAM) **24**, an input/output (I/O) controller **25**, a disk controller **26**, a communication controller **27**, and a user interface controller **28**.

- 5 CPU **22** is preferably one of the Intel families of microprocessors, one of the Motorola families of microprocessors, or one of the various versions of a Reduced Instruction Set Computer microprocessor such as the PowerPC chip manufactured by IBM. ROM **23** stores a conventional operating system, such as an AIX operating system or IBM's OS/2 operating system. ROM **23** also stores
10 various controlling programs such as the Basic Input-Output System (BIOS) developed by IBM. RAM **24** is the memory for loading the operating system and selectively loading the controlling programs.

- Controller **25** is an aggregate of controllers for facilitating an interaction between CPU **22** and pointing devices such as a mouse **30** and a keyboard **31**,
15 and between CPU **22** and output devices such as a printer **32** and a fax **33**. Controller **26** is an aggregate of controllers for facilitating an interaction between CPU **22** and data storage devices such as disks drives **34** in the form of a hard drive, a floppy drive, a local drive, and a compact-disc drive. Controller **27** is an aggregate of controllers for facilitating an interaction between CPU **22** and
20 network **11**, and between CPU **22** and database **13**. Controller **28** is an aggregate of controllers for facilitating an interaction between CPU **22** and a graphic display device such as a monitor **35**, and between CPU **22** and an audio device such as a speaker **36**.

- Computer **20** is also representative of a computer hardware embodiment
25 of client computers **15a-15i** with the exception of an interaction between CPU **22** and database **13**.

Those having skill in the art will appreciate alternative computer hardware embodiments of server computer **12**, server computer **14**, and client computers **15a-15i** for implementing the principles of the present invention.

Referring again to **FIG. 1**, server computer **12** includes the CMVC system
5 by IBM for the reading and the writing of source code files within database **13**,
such as, for example the source code files for a spreadsheet program. The
source code files include source language files of the human language text in
English, such as, for example, a file drop-down menu, an edit drop-down menu,
and a help drop-down menu of the spreadsheet program. In other embodiments
10 of server computer **12**, alternative types of source code control systems can be
utilized, and/or the source language files of the human language text can be in a
different source language.

Server computer **14** includes a translation management software **40**, as
will be subsequently described herein in connection with **FIGS. 3** and **4**, for
15 managing a translation of the source language files stored in database **13**.
Client computers **15a-15i** include a translation transfer software **50**, as will be
subsequently described herein in connection with **FIG. 3**, for receiving the source
language files and transmitting target language files of the human language text
in German, French, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and
20 Arabic, respectively. Software **40** and software **50** are computer programs
physically stored within ROM **22** and uploaded to RAM **23** whereby ROM **22** and
RAM **22** are computer readable mediums that are electrically, magnetically or
chemically altered to store computer readable code. In other embodiments of
server computer **14** and client computers **15a-15i**, software **40** and software **50**
25 can be stored in other computer readable mediums such as one or more of the
hard drives **34**, in a memory of a computer (not shown) internal to system **10**
whereby software **40** and software **50** can be transmitted over network **11** to

server computer **14** and client computers **15a-15i**, respectively, or in a memory of a computer (not shown) external to system **10** whereby software **40** and software **50** can be transmitted over an associated network to server computer **14** and client computers **15a-15i**, respectively. Also in other embodiments of
5 server computer **14** and client computers **15a-15i**, software **40** and software **50** can be fully or partially implemented with digital circuitry, analog circuitry, or both.

Referring additionally to **FIG. 3**, an interaction among server computer **12**, database **13**, software **40**, and software **50** is shown. While a functional description of software **40** and software **50** will now be described herein by the
10 description of file transfers and signals transmissions, those having ordinary skill in the art will appreciate the physical elements of server computer **12**, server computer **14**, and client computers **15a-15i** that are associated with such file transfers and signal transmissions.

Software **40** includes a control file distribution module **41**, a translation file
15 acceptance module **42**, a translation file validation module **43**, and an interface **44** for implementing a translation management routine **60** as shown in **FIG. 4**. Software **50** includes a translation file distribution module **51** and an interface **52**. For the simplicity of describing the present invention, software **40** and software **50** will now be described here in conjunction with an interaction between server
20 computer **14** and client computer **15a**. Those having ordinary skill in the art will appreciate the applicability of the following description of software **40** and software **50** to interactions between server computer **14** and each client computer **15b-15i**.

Referring additional to **FIG. 4**, in response to a reception of a signal from server computer **12** that indicates a particular set of source code files stored within database **13** are ready for translation of the human language text therein, during a stage **S62** of routine **60**, module **41** extracts associated source

- 5 language files of the human language text from database **13** to thereby generate and distribute a control file including the source language files and a source manifest listing the source language files. Module **41** preferably generates the control file in a JAVA™ Archive (JAR) file format whereby the source language files are bundled into a single archive file and the source manifest lists each
- 10 source language file within the archive file. For purposes of describing the present invention, a file name of the control file is **myjarfile1.jar** having a source manifest with listed source language files as exemplary shown in the following TABLE 1:

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TABLE 1

FILE NUMBER	SOURCE LANGUAGE FILE NAME
1	/src/pii/ja/muguidepanel1.java
2	/src/pii/ja/muguidepanel2.java
3	/src/pii/ja/muguidepanel3.java
4	/src/pii/ja/muguidepanel4.java
5	/src/pii/ja/muguidepanel5.java
6	/src/pii/ja/muguidepanel6.java
7	/src/pii/ja/muguidepanel7.java
8	/src/pii/ja/muguidepanel8.java
9	/src/pii/ja/muguidepanel1.msg
10	/src/pii/ja/muguidepanel1.msg

Module **41** communicates the generation of **myjarfile1.jar** to module **51** of client computer **15a**. In one embodiment of module **41**, an e-mail communicating the generation of **myjarfile1.jar** is transmitted to client computer **15a**. The translator associated with client computer **15a** triggers a transmission of a demand signal to module **41** sometime after a reception of the e-mail communication. Upon a reception of a demand signal from client computer **15a**, module **41** transfers a copy of **myjarfile1.jar** to module **51** of client computer **15a** via interface **44** and interface **52**. In one embodiment of interface **44** and interface **52**, the translator of client computer **15a** has access to a web page of server computer **14** whereby the translator can download **myjarfile1.jar** to module **51** of client computer **15a**. Module **41** tracks the download of **myjarfile1.jar**.

In response to a reception of the **myjarfile1.jar**, module **51** of client computer **15a** retrieves the source language files therein whereby a human translator or a translation module (not shown) of client computer **15a** can translate the human language text from English to German. Upon a completion of the translation, module **51** of client computer **15a** generates a translation file including target language files of the human language text in German and a target manifest listing the target language files. Module **51** preferably generates the translation file in a JAVA™ Archive (JAR) file format. For purposes of describing the present invention, a file name of the translation file is **myjarfile2.jar** having a target manifest with listed target language files as exemplary shown in the following TABLE 2:

TABLE 2

FILE NUMBER	TARGET LANGUAGE FILE NAME
1	/src/pii/ja DE/muguidepanel1.java
2	/src/pii/ja DE/muguidepanel2.java
3	/src/pii/ja DE/muguidepanel3.java
4	/src/pii/ja DE/muguidepanel4.java
5	/src/pii/ja DE/muguidepanel5.java
6	/src/pii/ja DE/muguidepanel6.java
7	/src/pii/ja DE/muguidepanel7.java
8	/src/pii/ja DE/muguidepanel8.java
9	/src/pii/ja DE/muguidepanel1.msg
10	/src/pii/ja DE/muguidepanel1.msg

Module 51 of client computer 15a directs a transfer of **myjarfile2.jar** via interface 52 and interface 44 to module 42. In one embodiment of interface 52 and interface 44, the translator of client computer 15a has access to a check-in web page of server computer 14 whereby the translator of client computer 15a can input **myjarfile2.jar** as the translation file and **myjarfile1.jar** as the corresponding control file. FIG. 5 illustrates an exemplary check-in web page WP1.

Referring still to FIGS. 1, 3 and 4, module 42 receives **myjarfile2.jar** during a stage S64 of routine 60. In response to **myjarfile2.jar**, module 42 proceeds to a stage S66 of routine 60 to compare the source manifest of **myjarfile1.jar** and the target manifest of **myjarfile2.jar**. Module 42 thereafter proceeds to a stage S68 of routine 60 to ascertain whether the source manifest and the target manifest collectively indicate a complete or incomplete translation of the human language text from English to German. In one embodiment of module 42, module 42 determines **myjarfile2.jar** includes a translation of each source language file of **myjarfile1.jar**, i.e., a complete translation of the human

language text from English to German, when the file listings of the source manifest and the target manifest are identical. Conversely, module **42** determines **myjarfile2.jar** does not include a translation of each source language file of **myjarfile1.jar**, i.e., an incomplete translation of the human language text from English to German, when the file listings of the source manifest and the target manifest are dissimilar in any manner.

Module **42** proceeds to a stage **S70a** of routine **60** to communicate an acceptance of **myjarfile2.jar** as to the translator or translation program of client computer **15a** when the source manifest and the target manifest collectively indicate a complete translation of the human language text from English to German. Conversely, module **42** proceeds to a stage **S70b** of routine **60** communicates a rejection of **myjarfile2.jar** to the translator or translation program of client computer **15a** when the source manifest and the target manifest collectively indicate an incomplete translation of the human language text from English to German. In one embodiment of interface **44** and interface **52**, a translator of client computer **15a** has access to a translation file acceptance web page whereby the translator can ascertain whether **myjarfile2.jar** was accepted or rejected.

FIG. 6 illustrates an exemplary translation file acceptance web page **WP2** displaying the source manifest of **myjarfile1.jar**. Referring to **FIG. 6**, the acceptance or rejection of **myjarfile2.jar** is communicated to a translator of client computer **15a** by whether a BEGIN VALIDATION input is active or inactive, respectively. The BEGIN VALIDATION input is active when each source language file listed on **WP2** has a corresponding target language file within **myjarfile2.jar**. Conversely, the BEGIN VALIDATION input is inactive when one or more of the source language files listed on **WP2** does not have a corresponding target language file within **myjarfile2.jar**. The listed source

language file(s) without a corresponding target language file can be color coded, e.g., red, whereby the translator of client computer **15a** can identify such file(s), exit web page **WP2**, and attempt to modify **myjarfile2.jar** accordingly.

Alternatively, the listed source language file(s) without a corresponding target

5 language file can have "Missing" under a STATUS column of web page **WP2**.

Referring again to **FIGS. 1, 3, and 4**, module **42** proceeds to a stage **S64** from stage **S70a** when rejecting **myjarfile2.jar** whereby module **42** awaits a new version of **myjarfile2.jar** from module **51**. Otherwise, module **42** signals module **43** when module **42** has accepted **myjarfile2.jar**. In response to the signal,
10 module **43** compares each target language file of **myjarfile2.jar** to a corresponding source language file of **myjarfile1.jar** during a stage **S72** of routine **60**, and ascertains whether the acceptance of **myjarfile2.jar** should be validated or invalidated during a stage **S74** of routine **60**.

In one embodiment of module **43**, module **43** determines the acceptance
15 of **myjarfile2.jar** should be validated when each target language file of **myjarfile2.jar** and a corresponding source language file of **myjarfile1.jar** are compatible, i.e., same format, same code set, etc. Conversely, module **43** determines the acceptance of **myjarfile2.jar** should be invalidated when one or more target language files of **myjarfile2.jar** are incompatible, i.e., dissimilar
20 formats, dissimilar code sets, etc., with corresponding source language file(s) of **myjarfile1.jar**. For example, one format embodiment for the source language files of **myjarfile1.jar** is a uniform transform format 8 bits (UTF8). Assuming every other programming aspect of the target language files of **myjarfile2.jar** are compatible, module **43** validates the acceptance of **myjarfile2.jar** when the
25 target language files of **myjarfile2.jar** are formatted under the UTF8 or compatible format, and invalidates the acceptance of **myjarfile2.jar** when the target language files of **myjarfile2.jar** are formatted under a format incompatible to the UTF8 such as International Standard Organization ISO10646.

Module **43** proceeds to a stage **S76a** of routine **60** to communicate a validation of the acceptance of **myjarfile2.jar** to the translator or translator program of client computer **15a**. Conversely, module **43** proceeds to a stage **S76b** of routine **60** to communicates an invalidation of the acceptance of

5 **myjarfile2.jar** to the translator or translator program of client computer **15a**.

Module **43** thereafter proceeds to stage **S64** from stage **S76b** to await a new version of **myjarfile2.jar**.

In one embodiment of interface **44** and interface **52**, a translator of client computer **15a** has access to a translation file validation web page whereby the

10 translator can ascertain whether the acceptance of **myjarfile2.jar** was validated or invalidated. **FIG. 7** illustrates an exemplary translation file validation web page **WP3** displaying the target manifest of **myjarfile2.jar**. Referring to **FIG. 7**, the validation or invalidation of the acceptance of **myjarfile2.jar** is communicated to a translator of client computer **15a** by whether a CMVC CHECK IN input is active

15 or inactive, respectively. The CMVC CHECK IN input is active when each target language file listed on **WP3** is compatible with a corresponding source language file listed on **WP2** (**FIG. 6**). Conversely, the CMVC CHECK IN input is inactive when one or more target language files listed on **WP3** is incompatible with corresponding source language file(s) listed on **WP2**. The compatible target

20 language file(s) have an "Ok" listed under the STATUS Column. The incompatible target language file(s) having an "Error" listed under the STATUS column whereby the translator of client computer **15a** can identify such file(s) and corresponding error(s) as listed under the ERROR LOG column, exit web page **WP3**, and attempt to modify the incompatible target language file(s)

25 accordingly.

Those having ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that, in response to an activation of an active CMVC CHECK IN input, module **43** directs a storage of the target language files of **myjarfile2.jar** to database **13** and directs a transmission of a notification signal to server computer **12** of this storage.

- 5 Consequently, upon a reception of the notification signal, developers associated with server computer **12** are assured that the stored target language files include a complete and valid translation of the human language text from English to German.

- 10 Referring to **FIGS. 1** and **3**, while the present invention has been described in the context of system **10**, the present invention can be implemented in a variety of ways as those having ordinary skill can appreciate. In one alternative embodiment, software **40**, module **51**, and various translations programs can be stored within computer **14**. In a second alternative embodiment, modules **41-43** can be distributed in any manner between two or
15 more computers **14**.

- 20 While the embodiments of the present invention disclosed herein are presently considered to be preferred, various changes and modifications can be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. The scope of the invention is indicated in the appended claims, and all changes that come within the meaning and range of equivalents are intended to be embraced therein.